UNITED
NATIONS

ST

Secretariat

ST/SGB/240
26 June 1991

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S BULLETIN

To: Members of the staff

Subject: UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMME

1. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 45/179 of 21 December 1990, a United Nations International Drug Control Programme has been established at Vienna as a single body responsible for concerted international actions for drug abuse control. The Programme integrates fully the structures and the functions of the Division of Narcotic Drugs of the Secretariat, the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, with the objective of enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations structure for drug abuse control in keeping with the functions and mandates of the United Nations in this field.

2. The Programme is headed by an Executive Director at the level of Under-Secretary-General appointed by the Secretary-General. The Executive Director, who assumed office on 1 March 1991, will execute the integration process and take charge of the Programme with the exclusive responsibility for coordinating and providing effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities, in order to ensure coherence of actions within the Programme as well as coordination, complementarity and non-duplication of such activities across the United Nations system. He will act on behalf of the Secretary-General in fulfilling the responsibility that devolves upon the Secretary-General under the terms of international treaties and resolutions of the United Nations organs relating to international drug control.

3. In the exercise of his functions, the Executive Director reports directly to the Secretary-General. Through appropriate arrangements of delegation of authority, he will have the latitude and control that is necessary over the personnel and financial resources of the Programme. In accordance with the General Assembly resolution, he will also have direct responsibility for the financial resources of the existing Fund for Drug Abuse Control as a fund for financing operational activities of the Programme.

4. As provided in the General Assembly resolution, the Programme will be structured along the following lines:

(a) Treaty implementation, which will integrate, with due consideration to treaty arrangements, the functions of the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board and the treaty implementation functions of the Division of Narcotic Drugs, taking into account the independent role of the Board;

(b) Policy implementation and research, with responsibility for implementing policy decisions of the relevant legislative bodies and conducting analytical work;

(c) Operational activities, with responsibility for coordinating and carrying out the technical cooperation projects currently executed mainly by the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, the Division of Narcotic Drugs and the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board.

5. Upon completion of the work of integration and restructuring of the three units referred to above along those lines, the organizational structure of the Programme will be the subject of another bulletin.

6. Bulletin ST/SGB/143 of 13 November 1973 is hereby superseded and bulletin ST/SGB/203 of 24 May 1984 is under review. Revisions to the relevant sections of ST/SGB/Organization will be issued in due course.

(Signed) Javier PEREZ DE CUELLAR
Secretary-General